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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/382,834

08/25/99

BEAMAN

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Y0993-028BX

MMC2/1107

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2858

DATE MAILED:

11/07/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/382,834

Applicant(s)

BEAMAN ET AL.

Examiner

VINH P NGUYEN

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 August 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
1. ☐ received.
2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.
3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 14) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 15) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) ✓
- 16) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 17) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 18) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 19) ☐ Other: _____

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1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because legal phraseologies such as “the present invention” and “means” are used. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
3. Claims 29-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 29, it is unclear what “a first substrate” and “a second substrate” represent. Are they shown in any of drawings? In claim 42, it is unclear what “the large substrate” and “a socket” represent. Are they shown in any of drawing? The term “the large substrate” has not been recited previously, therefore this term is indefinite. In claim 44, it is unclear what “a plurality of electrical connections” represent. Are they shown in any of drawings? In claim 43-44, it is unclear what “the second” represent. Is it referred to “the second substrate”? In claim 45, it is unclear what “a plurality of probe elements”, “a second substrate”, “means for effecting electrical connections ...”, “a plurality of probe elements disposed on the top surface of the at least one first substrate” and “the at least one first substrate” represent. Are they shown in any of drawings? In claim 47, it is unclear what “tip structures” represent. Are they shown in any of drawings? Furthermore, it is also unclear whether tip structures are positively claimed. In claim 52, it is unclear what “a plurality of said second substrates” represent. Are they shown in any of

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drawings? The dependent claims not specifically address share the same indefiniteness as they depend from rejected base claims.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 29-32,35,38-41,44-46,50-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bove et al (Pat # 4,038,599).

As to claims 29-32,35,38-41,44-46 and 50-51, Bove et al disclose a high density wafer contacting and test system having a second substrate (20) with a plurality of flexible contact elements (19) for making contact with the dies or integrated circuits formed on the wafer (16), a first transformer (13) with a first plurality of conductive lands (13a) for electrically connecting to the second substrate (20) and an electrical testing apparatus (14,15) electrically connected to the first and second substrate through a plurality of electrical connections (11,13). It appears that the probe elements are flexible.


6. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Luttmmer (Pat # 3,795,037).

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As to claim 49, Luttmer disclose an electrical connector device as shown in figure 8 having a first substrate (21) with two opposite surfaces, flexible contacts (70) extending from the two surfaces (79,79a) and means (72b) within the substrate for connecting the terminals to the contacts.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINH P. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 305-4914.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.


VINH P. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2858
11/03/2000